

EVENING BULLETIN.

[From this morning's Journal.]

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS—SECOND SESSION Tuesday's Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.

Senate.—Mr. Cass called the Senate to order, and announced that the first business would be the election of a President pro tem.

Mr. Hale—What is the occasion?
Mr. Cass—Because we haven't any. [Laughter.]
On motion of Mr. Hunter the Senate proceeded to an election.

Mr. Mason was elected, receiving 30 votes. Mr. Foote received 11, Weller 1, and blank 2.

Mr. Harlan moved that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the report of the committee of the Judiciary relative to his claim to a seat from Iowa. Mr. Pratt trusted that the subject would not now be considered. Many facts were involved in the decision of this case, and it was important that they be thoroughly understood. The Senator from Georgia (Mr. Toombs) had intimated his intention to submit a minority report, and he should like to see the arguments of both sides before proceeding in the discussion.

Mr. Toombs, remarking that there was not a single converted fact in the whole case, said that the only difference in opinion relative to the matter was based upon the application of the law to facts admitted on all hands. So far as the views of the minority of the committee are concerned, he could express them verbally as well as in writing.

Mr. Bayard preferred that the subject should be laid over till to-morrow, as having been absent from the city he had had no opportunity to examine the question.

Mr. Harlan said it should be remembered that the protest of the Iowa Senate had been before the Senate nearly two years. All the members of the committee of the Judiciary had ample time to investigate the subject, if they had chosen to do so. Another reason why it was desirable to have this question settled as soon as possible, was that the Legislature of Iowa was now in session, having convened on the first Monday in December, and their term is limited by the constitution to fifty days.

Mr. Butler was in favor of proceeding to the decision of the question forthwith. He stood in a position of perfect indifference as regards the gentleman who was to be elected by the result, and approached the subject solely on its merits.

The government of Iowa consisted of a Legislature, composed of a Senate and House of Representatives. Senators held their term for a longer period than the members of the House, and are fewer in number, but are recognized by the constitution as a separate and distinct part of the Legislature. The House, being a more numerous body, in matters of elections must have a preponderating influence, and hence concurrent action of the Senate was required. He stated the reasons which influenced the majority of the committee in coming to the conclusion that Mr. Harlan was not duly elected. These were, in brief, that the Senate, as a body, did not attend that meeting in joint convention which Harlan was elected, and their teller was not over, as required by law. The Senate had adjourned over, and there was no Senate in session at the time. A majority of the Senators were present in their individual capacity, but the Senate, as a body, was not there. The President of the Senate, the regular presiding officer of the joint convention, was elected President, *pro tem*. These irregularities vitiated the election.

Mr. Toombs contended that the Legislature of Iowa was composed of members of the Senate and House, and upon those individuals was devolved the constitutional duty of electing a Senator of the United States in the manner prescribed by the constitution of Iowa. The joint convention consisted of members who composed the two legislative bodies, and as soon as they met in joint convention the distinction heretofore existing between them as members of different branches was obliterated. Their names were arranged in alphabetical order on one list, hence the absence or refusal to participate in the proceedings on the part of any members less than a majority of the whole number of members composing the joint convention could not invalidate the doings of the convention. He thought the fraudulent and factious conduct of the Senators in Iowa, who sought to defeat the election and frustrate the will of the people of Iowa, ought to be condemned by this body and by the entire American people.

Mr. Benjamin wished to know whether it was competent for one branch of a State Legislature to elect a Senator to Congress. The Constitution of the United States declares that Senators shall be chosen by the State Legislatures, and the State Legislatures consist of two branches, from which it follows that the Constitution requires that Senators should be elected by those two branches conjointly.

Mr. Toombs replied that such a construction of the Constitution would render invalid the election of a great many Senators, because many Senators had held their seats against the majority of a branch of their State Legislature.

Mr. Pugh argued in support of the constitutionality of Mr. Harlan's election and concurred in the views expressed by Mr. Toombs.

Mr. Geary, agreeing with the majority of the Judiciary Committee, believed the election of Mr. Harlan unconstitutional.

Mr. Bayard next obtained the floor.

Mr. Fish introduced a bill making appropriations for the removal of Diamond reef and Coenties reef in New York harbor. Adjourned.

House.—Mr. Boyce gave notice of an amendment he intended offering to the tariff bill. He proposes that from and after January, 1857, all goods, wares, and merchandise, and other products subject under the existing tariff to pay a duty of 20 per cent. shall continue to be admitted at that rate, and that tea and coffee be included in the same schedule.

Mr. Underwood introduced a bill the more effectually to prevent the introduction of spirituous liquors and wines into the Indian country. Referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

The consideration of the President's message was resumed, when Mr. Stephens said that the debate on this subject was an unusual one in parliamentary history. To him it was invested with interest and to the country, he trusted, it would not be unprofitable. We are in the midst of a new epoch of the republic, and it will be so considered hereafter. The late election brought into array parties with, what he considered, well defined and clearly ascertained principles, which were manfully and openly met on both sides. It was a fearful issue, but the dangers are passed. The result of the late election has quieted the public mind and we may do well, even now, when the storm is over and the danger past, to review them. He congratulated the country, the House, and even the Speaker on the result of the election, which has made the people everywhere breathe freer, and stimulated the arts of peace. There were differences of opinion as to what was decided. Congress shall impose no restrictions on the territories so far as slavery is concerned. This issue was boldly made on one side and as fairly and cautiously made on the other.

Mr. Davis of Md. made a speech in condemnation of the Democratic and Republican parties, eulogized the American party and contended that Buchanan was elected by the votes of a minority of the people, the majority having condemned both the Kansas act and the Pierce administration. He predicted the greatest possible confusion in the distribution of the spoils. Adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.

The administration has been officially advised that Villiers, a brother of Lord Clarendon and late Judge Advocate General, has been appointed British Minister to this country and will shortly arrive here.

Official dispatches received by the Navy Department, from Capt. Hartstien, speak in glowing language of his reception in England.

Thomas D. Condy, of South Carolina, has been confirmed by the Senate as United States Attorney for that State.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 6.

Col. Titus's Kansas company did not arrive in New Orleans in time to proceed to Nicaragua in the steamship Texas.

The postmaster hereafter gives a monthly mail which leaves New York, via Panama, Punta Arenas, La Union, and San Jose for Central America. The Norfolk papers report the rumored loss of the ship Prince de Joinville off that port, with all on board.

ment with the Government and the good effect of the settlement of the difficulty has already been felt on the frontier.

At San Luis another pronunciamento has been declared against the Government by those dissatisfied with the Vidaurian's treaty.

The Indians were committing great depredations on the American side of the Rio Grande.

St. Louis, Jan. 6.

Governor Polk was inaugurated yesterday.

In the Senate, a joint resolution by both houses to meet in Joint Session on Monday, 12th inst., to elect two United States Senators passed informally.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 6.

The river is still rising, supposed to be in consequence of a gorge below.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 6.

The Legislature met at noon and the House was organized by the election of Dewitt C. Littlejohn, Republican, Speaker of the House.

The Governor's message was read. The following is a summary of its contents. The financial condition of the treasury is favorable. The total receipts into the treasury, including the balance from the previous year, has been nearly \$18,000,000, and the expenditures were nearly \$16,000,000, leaving a balance of more than 2,000,000.

The Canal debt at the close of the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1856, was upwards of \$2,240,000, and the receipts were \$2,750,000.

The whole length of the canals and public works are 892 miles, and the entire cost, when complete, will be \$60,000,000.

The State banking system is represented as in a sound and healthy condition.

The Department of Public Instruction generally is in a flourishing state, with an annually increasing revenue.

The message reports the condition of the various State institutions for the suppression and punishment of crime, as well as those of a strictly benevolent character.

The abuse of the elective franchise is commented upon and the subject commended to the earnest consideration of the Legislature. With regard to the recent Presidential election, the message assumes that the result is an irreversible decree, that so far as the State of New York is concerned, there shall hereafter be no extension of slavery in the territory of the United States. The Governor alludes to the imputations upon the Republican party put forth in the President's message, which he declares to be wholly groundless, and proceeds to give at large the views of that party on the great question of the day.

In this connection, he alludes to the outrages in Kansas, and recommends that a sum of money be appropriated for the relief of destitute citizens. The message reports the various State institutions for the suppression and punishment of crime, as well as those of a strictly benevolent nature, as being satisfactory.

The Governor's allusion to the liquor question is brief. He says, however, opinions may differ as to the expediency of prohibiting entirely the sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, none can doubt that it is the clear right and absolute duty of the Legislature so to regulate their sale as to diminish as far as practicable the risk of their abuse, and that remedy that the law will permit and opinion will sustain to check it should be left untied. The message, on the whole, is a very able document, and places the financial, political and moral condition of our State in a very striking and favorable light.

OFFICIAL.

BOARD OF COMMON COUNCIL.

MONDAY EVENING, Jan. 5, 1857.

Present.—D. H. Monsarrat and all the members. On motion, reading minutes of previous session dispensed with.

A claim in favor of the Gas Co. of \$3,959 32, being gas bill for quarter ending Dec. 31, 1856, was presented and referred to the Committee on Gas and Water.

A claim in favor of Pres. Means of \$61 80, for sand furnished Street Inspector of the Western District, was referred to the Committee on Streets of the Western District.

A claim in favor of Jas. Robb of \$8 75, for coal furnished Police Office of the Eastern District, was presented and referred to the Committee on Police.

A claim in favor of Jas. Robb of \$10 50, for coal furnished Workhouse, was referred to the Committee on Workhouse.

The report of the Street Inspector of the Western District, from the 16th to the 29th of October, 1856, was presented and referred to the Street Committee of the Western District, with leave to report, when.

Mr. Vaughan, from said Committee, after investigation, reported a resolution allowing said report, when, on motion, the same was recommended.

A resolution was presented from the Board of Aldermen, approving the Engineer's appointment for bowldering Portland Avenue from Eleventh street eastward, H. H. Higdon contractor; also, allowing said Higdon \$6,487 48, the city's portion of the cost of same, which was referred to the Committee on Public Works, with leave to report, when.

Mr. Shanks, from said Committee, after due investigation, reported the same with an amendment, which was concurred in, and the same was adopted as amended.

The bond of J. W. Craig, as City Treasurer, was presented, and, on motion, approved.

Mr. Weaver presented the resignation of John A. Weatherford as Night Watchman of the Fifth District, which was accepted.

Mr. Kendall, from the Committee on Elections, presented the resignation of S. D. Choate as School Trustee for the Eighth ward; also the resignation of John A. Williams as Day Watchman of the Fourth District.

Mr. Overall, from the Street Committee of the Eastern District, reported a resolution allowing the street funds of said District their pay, from the 10th to the 24th of December, 1856; when, on motion, the same was recommended.

Mr. Overall, from same, reported a resolution directing the Street Inspector of the Eastern District to clean out the opening in the sewer at the corner of Washington and First streets, which, on motion, was committed.

Mr. Vaughan, from the Street Committee of the Western District, reported a resolution allowing the street funds of the Western District their pay from the 10th to the 24th of December, 1856, when.

Mr. Sisson moved a recommitment of same, which motion was lost by the following vote: Yeas—Messrs. Caswell, Kendall, Overall, Pope, Shanks, and Sisson—6.

Nays—President Monsarrat, and Messrs. Baird, Gilliss, Monroe, Ray, Sargent, Vaughan, and Weaver—8.

On motion, the same was then adopted, by the following vote: Yeas—President Monsarrat, and Messrs. Baird, Gilliss, Monroe, Overall, Ray, Sargent, Vaughan, Weaver, and White—10.

CLAIMS ALLOWED.

J. M. Boggs, \$8 75 for sundry bills for Market Houses; Work House expenses for Dec., 1856, \$782 65; John Sargent \$3 45 for oil furnished Steam Fire Engine;

Peter Silar \$33 65, one month's services interpreter City; R. G. Kyle & Co., \$15, for stove furnished Rescue Fire Company;

Thos. Williams & Co., \$2 25, for lamps, &c., to Speed Market; Thos. Williams & Co., \$7 25, for lamps, &c., to Falls City Market;

Thos. Williams & Co., \$3 60, for cleaning lamps Kentucky Market;

Mr. Shanks, from the Committee on Public Works, was discharged from the further consideration of a resolution from the Board of Aldermen, directing the Mayor to employ some one to construct a wooden bridge across the southern ditch, at its intersection with Fifth street.

A resolution was presented from the Board of Aldermen, allowing Henry Dent \$14 76, fees as marshal of the Louisville Chancery Court, which was referred to the Finance Committee.

A resolution was presented from the Board of Aldermen, directing the Mayor to employ some one to repair the iron gates in the Speed and Kentucky markets, which was referred to the Committee on Public Works.

A resolution was presented from the Board of Aldermen, allowing J. M. Delph \$7, being the interest on an execution, which was referred to the Finance Committee.

An ordinance, providing for taking a census of the city of Louisville for the year 1857, was returned from the Board of Aldermen with a resolution as a substitute, when, on motion, the whole, with an amendment offered by Mr. Monroe, was referred to a select committee consisting of Messrs. Vaughan, Monroe, and Overall.

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poor, Sargent, Shanks, Sisson, Newman, and White—10.

On motion, this Board adjourned.

J. M. VAUGHAN, Clerk.

[For the Louisville Journal.]

THE COURT-HOUSE QUESTION.

A desultory episode appeared on the 6th inst. in a city paper over a signature "Citizen." The distinguished feature in the arguments of this wise head, is that it is replete with no arguments, a general attempt to fling grape into the ranks of political enemies, and a general effusion of official from dissen, petulant, sour, jealous, and vindictive temper.

It is fresh in the memory of well-informed citizens, that in the year 1853, an ordinance was passed in the General Council, by "Citizens" political friends appropriating \$150,000 to build the present Court House, and build some three or four other houses on Court Place; the ordinance reads as follows:

"An ordinance to provide the means to finish the Court House and make additions thereto.

"1. Be it ordained by the General Council of the city of Louisville, That the sum of \$150,000 be appropriated for the purpose of building two houses, one on Sixth street, at the corner of Court Place, and one on Fifth street, at the corner of Court Place.

"2. The said two houses to be constructed according to a plan to be approved by the General Council, or the whole \$150,000 to be used in building a house with the material in the present Court House, upon a plan to be approved by the General Council.

"3. A special tax of 15 cents on the \$100 is hereby levied for five years on the property in Louisville, real and personal, in order to pay said sums of money; said tax not to be collected until after the next fiscal year.

"4. This ordinance shall not go into effect until it has been submitted to the people and approved by a majority of the vote cast for and against it. The vote shall be taken on the day appointed by the General Council, and after the ordinance shall have been published at least three times in the Journal, Democrat, Courier, Times, and the German papers.

Approved November 9, 1853.

The Council, in 1853, possessed independence sufficient to pass the ordinance above, but its friends could not be induced to assume the responsibility of testing its merits before the good people of the city, and hence it has become a dead letter.

Two years subsequent to this, however, the Mayor was authorized to receive plans, specifications, and estimates to alter and complete the present edifice, and the following ordinance was published by the Mayor for one month in the daily city papers:

"Notice to Architects and Draftsmen.—Sealed proposals will be received by the Mayor at his office, until 12 o'clock M. on Saturday, January 19, 1856, for plans and specifications for the alteration and completion of the Louisville Court House. Said plans must be made to one uniform plan, and of an inch to one foot. All stone work must be colored alike, say blue tint, brick work red, wood work yellow, and iron black, except where no alterations are made, the coloring may be as usual.

A separate plan must be furnished for each story, a longitudinal and a transverse section, a front elevation, and a plan of the roof, with full specifications and estimates of cost. Plans and specifications and drawings necessary to be occupied in said house will be a Circuit Court room, County and Chancery Court rooms, with offices attached to each, and jury room; chambers for the General Council, one for Board of Aldermen, and one for Common Council, with clerk's offices for each; Auditor's, Assessor's, and Treasurer's offices separate, with necessary book racks and cases for the preservation of books and papers.

One hundred dollars will be paid for the set of plans and specifications which may be adopted by the General Council. JOHN BARBEE, Mayor.

From some cause unknown to the writer, only one set of drawings and specifications were received under this notice. Mr. E. W. Vogtle made a complete return of plans and specifications, and was paid the sum of \$100. The construction of the old Court House, but in the absence of competition no action was taken by the Council on his plans.

The Council, however, at that time was so vitiated and pressed by numerous debts, unwarrantable and unlawful liabilities incurred by the political friends of "Citizens," and consequently the funds were not at their disposal to employ an architect to prepare plans and specifications for the construction of the old Court House, but in the absence of competition no action was taken by the Council on his plans.

After long and mature deliberation by every member of the Council, it was finally decided to issue city bonds for the purpose of constructing a Court House, that it would be extremely oppressive to pay interest for thirty years, and then principal for such an object. The Council, therefore, on the 23rd of July, 1856, passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the Council do authorize the Mayor and Board of Aldermen to issue city bonds for the purpose of constructing a Court House, that it would be extremely oppressive to pay interest for thirty years, and then principal for such an object. The Council, therefore, on the 23rd of July, 1856, passed the following resolution:

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